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nature that romantic morality implies with reference to the Calvinistic theology from which it is a recoil; yet it would seem urgent at present to dissipate this sham spirituality, the more dangerous because the less obvious aspect of our present materialism, and to re-establish, if possible, on a thoroughly positive and critical basis the checks and inhibitions of true conscience. Rousseau has so far transcended in his influence the mere man of letters as to challenge comparison with the founders of religions. This comparison I have accordingly made. If it leads me to express a preference for Jesus and Buddha, a preference that seems to inspire in Professor Schinz a certain chagrin, the reason is that these teachers did not seek like Rousseau and the Rousseauists to found the religious virtues on the ruin of the inner life.

IRVING BABBITT.

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REVIEWS AND ABSTRACTS OF LITERATURE

Métaphysique et Psychologie. THÉODORE FLOURNOY. Deuxième édition. Paris: Fischbacher. 1919. Pp. xvi + 195.

A second edition of this important work was a long-felt need. When the book appeared for the first time in 1890, it was at once recognized as one of the leading studies in the field of experimental psychology. The author, who was at the same time a physician and a philosopher, had mastered once for all the relations which are bound to exist between experimental psychology and metaphysics. Since then, numerous volumes have increased M. Flournoy's reputation and made him a leading authority on the subject. But his first work is still one of his best productions; and this new edition, preceded by a preface of Harald Höffding, is a faithful reproduction of the first.

As a foundation of the science of psychology, the author proposes the well-known law of parallelism between the mental states and the bodily conditions. Inspired by the same principles which the pragmatists have since made popular, he regards this law as a working principle, as a hypothesis whose function is simply to guide us in our researches. It may be held in connection with any metaphysical theory; and, if we try to investigate its essence, we will see that it is nothing but a confession of ignorance. The relations between mind and body are as mysterious to-day as they were at the dawn of human thought; and all philosophical systems intended to explain them have been a decided failure.

The author examines in a brief, but thorough, manner, the most

important of these systems: materialism, idealism, spiritualism and monism, and points out the fact that they have not helped us in any way towards the knowledge of reality.

A nearer approach to ultimate truth is, according to our author, the theory which holds, with the author of the *Critique of Practical Reason*, that the moral law furnishes us an insight into reality itself, which science merely shapes according to human categories. And here again, the author agrees to a certain extent with our modern pragmatists, who teach us that the categories of science have been shaped by man for practical purposes, and that there is a reality deeper than what our intellect can reach.

M. Flournoy's work is one of the best contributions to the subject of the relations between experimental psychology and metaphysics. It ought not to be overlooked by any student of philosophy.

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Towards Racial Health. NORAH H. MARCH. New York: Dutton & Company. 1919. Pp. 318.

This handbook on the training of boys and girls for parents, teachers and social workers, written nearly five years ago in the British Isles, is now printed in the United States. Dr. J. Arthur Thompson, professor of natural history, writes a foreword and the American edition has an introduction by Dr. Evangeline W. Young, of Boston. Parents, teachers and social workers will be assisted by Miss March's work, in giving sex education to the young who come under their care. The book is for such teachers and not a text for boys and girls. Miss March emphasizes the biological aspect of her subject. Some of the chapter headings are misleading as to their contents. After reading chapters entitled "Mental Development" and "Supervision—Psychological Aspect," the reviewer wishes Miss March had either omitted such titles for chapters or collaborated with a psychologist when writing them. In the discussion on "Mental Development" one finds the statement, "We must remember that, fundamentally, men and women are biologically and consequently psychologically different organisms" (p. 31). The reviewer wonders what Miss March means to imply by "psychologically different organisms." Proof for the statement in place of "consequently" would be more convincing.

Chapters VI. and VII. (67 pages) are devoted to Nature Study and Biology of Sex. Chapter IX has the misleading title "Education for Parenthood" but it contains an array of information from the works of Karl Pearson, Tredgold, and others.